Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 10438 01 OF 02 301349Z ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /136 W

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R 301331Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6874 INFO ALL EC CAPITALS AMEMBASSY TOKYO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 BRUSSELS 10438

USEEC

PASS AGRICULTURE AND STR ELECTRONICALLY

PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

GENEVA ALSO FOR USMTN

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: EAGR, EEC

SUBJ: US/EC CONSULTATIONS - MTN DISCUSSION

1. SUMMARY: UNDER SECRETARY COOPER AND VICE PRESIDENT HAFERKAMP AGREED ON POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF REACHING FULL AGREEMENT ON MTN BY JULY AND REVIEWED POSITIONS ON INDIVIDUAL MTN ISSUES. THEY STRESSED THAT SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENT MUST BE REACHED WITHIN THE NEXT MONTH SO THAT REMAINING TIME CAN BE USED TO SEEK AGREEMENT FROM OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED DEMOCRACIES AND LDC.S. END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 10438 01 OF 02 301349Z

2. EC VICE PRESIDENT HAFERKAMP AND UNDER SECRETARY COOPER REVIEWED PROGRESS ON MTN DURING PLENARY DISCUSSION MAY 26. THEY AGREED THAT MAJOR PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE IN THE YEAR SINCE THE DOWNING STREET SUMMIT. WORKING BACKWARDS FROM THE BONN SUMMIT DATE, COOPER SUGGESTED THAT WE REALLY HAVE ONLY ABOUT A MONTH LEFT

TO REACH AGREEMENT ON SUBSTANCE SO THAT THE INTERVENING TIME CAN BE USED FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND LDC.S.

3. ON AGRICULTURE, COOPER THOUGHT WE HAD MADE CONSIDER-ABLE PROGRESS RECENTLY. THERE IS NOW A GOOD BASIS FOR A WHEAT AGREEMENT AND THE PROSPECT OF SOME KIND OF ARRANGE-MENT ON FEED GRAINS AND MEAT. THE U.S. HAS REQUESTED SPECIFIC CONCESSIONS ON CERTAIN AGIRCULTURAL ITEMS AND IS AWAITING AN EC RESPONSE. ON SUBSIDIES/COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, COOPER THOUGHT WE HAD MADE SLOW PROGRESS AND EMPHASIZED THAT A CODE IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE FINAL PACKAGE. HE SAID THE FEELING IN THE U.S. NOW IS THAT SUB-SIDIES HAVE REPLACED TARIFFS AS THE MAJOR TRADE DISTOR-TION, ON TARIFFS, COOPER EXPRESSED WORRY OVER THE DYNAMICS ON TARIFF OFFERS. THE EC HAD TABLED A POTENTIAL WITHDRAWAL LIST. WE WANT TO AVOID HAVING THE TARIFF EXERCISE TURNED INTO A COMPETITION TO PRODUCE EVERMORE RESTRICTED OFFERS. ON STANDARDS, COOPER SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THERE WAS SOME PROBLEM INVOLVING REGIONAL CERTIFICATION SCHEMES WHICH HE HOPED COULD BE RESOLVED. IN GENERAL, IT IS IMPORTANT TO WORK TOGETHER TO ENSURE THAT STANDARDS DO NOT SERVE AS DIS-TORTIONS TO PATTERNS OF TRADE. HE CALLED GOVERNMENT PRO-CUREMENT AN EVER-GROWING COMPONENT OF GOODS TRANSACTIONS. WE NEED A CODE NOW TO LAY OUT THE GROUND RULES AND MUST STRIVE FOR OPENNESS IN GOVERNMENT PURCHASES. ONE ADDI-CONFIDENTIAL.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 10438 01 OF 02 301349Z

TIONAL REASON IS THAT LDC.S ARE A GROWING PART OF WORLD TRADE AND MANY OF THEIR PURCHASES ARE GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED.

4. HAFERKAMP EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH THESE REMARKS. HE SAID THE EC HAS DECIDED TO WORK VERY HARD SO THAT THE BONN SUMMIT CAN MAKE A DECLARATION, DECISION OR COMMITMENT ON MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THE PACKAGE AND ENCOURAGE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LAST FORNIGHT OF THE MTN IN THE SECOND HALF OF JULY. HE MENTIONED THAT THE MTN IS ONE CHAPTER OF THE DOWNING STREET COMMUNIQUE WHICH WE HAVE ACHIEVED, A STATEMENT WHICH CANNOT BE MADE ABOUT THE OTHER CHAPTERS. WE NOW NEED TO FURTHER NARROW OUR DIFFERENT POSITIONS AND TO BRING IMMEDIATELY INTO THE PICTURE THE OTHER INDUSTRIAL-IZED COUNTRIES AND THE LDC.S. HAFERKAMP SAID WE ALSO NEED TO ENCOURAGE THE GATT SECRETARIAT AND DIRECTOR GENERAL TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLF. ON TARIFFS, HAFERKAMP AGREED ON THE DANGERS OF EXCEPTIONS AND SAID THAT THE EC BELIEVES WE SHOULD SEARCH INSTEAD FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN OFFERS. ONLY IF NO IMPROVEMENTS ARE POSSIBLE WOULD THE EC THEN LOOK AT WITHDRAWALS. THE EC INTENDS TO MAINTAIN THIS LINE. IT WILL DO EVERYTHING IT CAN TO REACH POLITICAL AGREEMENTS IN THE

TIME ALLOTTED.

5. COOPER THAN ASKED SIR ROY DENMAN FOR HIS VIEWS ON TIMING OVER THE NEXT MONTH. DENMAN REPLIED THAT HE AND DEPUTY STR MCDONALD HAD AGREED TO FREQUENT MEETINGS IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. RABOT WILL SEE MCDONALD EARLY NEXT WEEK AND DENMAN ON JUNE 2-3 IN GENEVA. A SECOND DENMAN-MCDONALD MEETING HAS BEEN POTENTIALLY SET FOR JUNE 13. THEIR JOINT AIM IS TO CLEAR AWAY AS MUCH OF THE BRUSH AS POSSIBLE SO AS TO ALLOW DECISIONS AT A TRILATERAL MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING IN WASHINGTON ON JUNE 19-20.

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 10438 02 OF 02 301351Z ACTION STR-07

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BRUSSELS 10438

ON TARIFFS, DENMAN SAID HE AGREED THAT UNRAVELLING IS A DANGER. HE THOUGHT WE HAD A COMMON CAUSE IN SEEKING IMPROVEMENTS FROM JAPAN AS WELL AS FROM CANADA. HE SAID HE THOUGHT THE U.S. UNDERSTOOD THE IMPORTANCE THE EC ATTACHES TO SELECTIVE SAFEGUARDS. HE RECOGNIZED THAT SOME GREATER DISCIPLINE ON SUBSIDIES IS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO OBTAIN AN INJURY PROVISION FROM CONGRESS. THE PROBLEM IS TO FIND WORDS THAT WON.T ALARM EC MEMBER STATES OVER THEIR REGIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL POLICIES. ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, DENMAN SAID SOME MEMBER STATES ARE WORRIED OVER VARIOUS BILLS IN CONGRESS TO TIGHTEN THE BUY-AMERICAN ACT. COOPER SAID HE TOOK THE POINT AND SEES IT AS ANOTHER REASON TO OBTAIN AN INTERNATINAL UNDERSTANDING AS A WAY TO BLOCK SUCH DOMESTIC MEASURES. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION

OF THE POINTS ON CANADA AND JAPAN. HE SUGGESTED WE ALSO PRESS SOME OF THE MORE ADVANCED LDC.S FOR CONCESSIONS. HE SAID THAT IT WILL HELP US TO SELL THE PACKAGE AT HOME IF WE CAN POINT TO SOME LDC CONTRIBUTIONS. ON SELECTIVE SAFEGUARDS, COOPER SAID THE US GOVERNMENT HAS ACCEPTED CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 10438 02 OF 02 301351Z

THE PRINCIPLE BUT IS VERY MUCH WORRIED ABOUT POSSIBLE ABUSES AND ANY UNRAVELLING OF MULTILATERAL TRADING RULES. FOR THIS REASON WE WANT TO SEE ANY SELECTIVE SAFEGUARDS VERY MUCH COUCHED IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT. HAFERKAMP SAID THAT THE EC AGREES ON THIS POINT; THE QUESTION IS TO FIND THE CORRECT FORMULA. HINTON

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